

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01473 041642Z

63

ACTION SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAB-01 IO-11 SAM-01 AID-05 IGA-02 ACDA-05

/087 W

----- 047144

R 041423Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9789

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1473

FOR SSM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG IS

SUBJECT: PRESS INTEREST IN SINAI FIELD MISSION

REF: TEL AVIV 786

1. AS EMBASSY HAS REPORTED, INTEREST IN SFM ACTIVITIES IS HIGH IN CAIRO FROM BOTH FOREIGN AND EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS AND LIKELY TO REMAIN SO FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE. WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY TEL AVIV (REFTEL) THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SOME KIND OF PERMANENT ARRANGEMENT.

2. EMBASSY HAS CONSISTENTLY TAKEN POSITION WITH PRESS (AND OTHERS) THAT IT IS NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN SFM ACTIVITIES SINCE SFM IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO SSM WASHINGTON. WE DO NOT THEREFORE RECOMMEND ASSIGNMENT OF SFM PAO TO EMBASSY CAIRO, EVEN ON PART TIME BASIS. WE ASSUME THAT SFM DIRECTOR THORNE WILL HANDLE PRINCIPAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS FUNCTION ONCE HE IS IN PLACE. FOR ROUTINE MATTERS, VISITS, CODELS, ETC. ONE POSSIBLE SOLUTION WOULD BE CHARGE SFM LIAISON OFFICERS IN CAIRO AND TEL AVIV WITH ALSO HANDLING PRESS INQUIRIES.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 01473 041642Z

EMBASSY WILL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ALL APPROPRIATE

BACKSTOPPING, BUT WOULD PREFER NOT TO BECOME FOCAL POINT FOR
PRESS INQUIRIES OR ARRANGEMENTS CONNECTED SINAI OPERATION.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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Type: TE
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